

**THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST - SOLEMNITY**  
**CYCLE C**  
**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**Celebrant:** John the Baptist was called from the first moment of his life to announce the coming of the light to the nations, the hope of the world. In the joy of this feast, let us make our prayers to God.

Our response is: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

1. That the Church and her leaders, especially Pope Francis and Bishop Paul, may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the message of salvation to the ends of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

2. That the leaders of nations may be instruments of truth and justice and lead their people in the way of peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

3. That the poor and the suffering may take fresh heart in the promise of Christ's glory, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

4. That we may come to that end to which our faith looks, the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

5. That the Lamb of God may take away the sins of the faithful departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

**Celebrant:** Father of time and eternity, you search our hearts and discern our needs before we ask. Aided by Saint John the Baptist, in your mercy hear our prayers, through Christ our Lord. Amen.